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ACTION EA-20

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-08 L-04 NSAE-00

NSC-10 P-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-20 USIA-12 IO-16 UPW-01

RSR-01 AID-28 /137 W

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R 050845Z AUG 71
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8264
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
CINCPAC
AMCONSUL DANANG
USDEL FRANCE
AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 12432

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

SUBJ: FOURTH LIST FILES PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDACY; ANOTHER RENOUNCES RACE

1. A FOURTH PRESIDENTIAL SLATE COMPOSED OF NGUYEN TRAN AND NGUYEN TAN CHUC FILED ITS CANDIDACY JUST BEFORE THE DEADLINE OF 6 PM AUGUST 4.

2. TRAN, A CATHOLIC FROM QUANG NAM IN CENTRAL VIET-NAM, IS A RESPECTABLE POLITICAL FIGURE. HE HAS BEEN PROVINCE CHIEF OF DINH TUONG AND OF KHANH HOA, AND RAN UNSUCCESSFULLY FOR THE UPPER HOUSE IN 1967 WHEN HE WAS ALSO ELECTED CHAIRMAN OF THE CENTRAL ELECTION CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE FOR THAT ELECTION. CHUCH IS A SOUTHERNER AND MEDICAL DOCTOR WHO HEADED A LIST IN THE UPPER HOUSE 1970 ELECTION WHICH WITHDREW VOLUNTARILY BEFORE THE ELECTION.

(1) 3. TRAN TELLS US HE HAD DIFFICULTY GETTING PAST SECURITY PERSONNEL AND CLAIMS THAT THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE SUPREME COURT WAS RELUCTANT TO ACCEPT HIS APPLICATION UNTIL TRAN

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY Joan Izenberg DATE 1/26/82
RDS or XDS EXT. DATE
TS AUTH.
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKING
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THREATENED TO TAKE THE MATTER TO THE CHIEF JUSTICE. TRAN SAID HE FILED NO ENDORSEMENTS WITH HIS APPLICATION, BUT INSTEAD A STATEMENT THAT THE ENDORSEMENT PROVISION OF THE ELECTION LAW IS ILLEGAL. TRAN ADMITTED HE HAD NO CHANCE OF HAVING HIS CANDIDACY ACCEPTED, SINCE THE SUPREME COURT HAS ALREADY UPHELD THE CONSTITUTIONALITY OF THIS PROVISION.

4. THE MORNING OF AUGUST 4 THE LIST OF TRAN TAM AND HUYNH VAN NHIEM HELD A PRESS CONFERENCE AT THE AMJESTIC HOTEL TO ANNOUNCE THEY COULD NOT OBTAIN ENOUGH ENDORSEMENTS TO RUN, AND DENOUNCED THE ENDORSEMENT PROVISION OF THE ELECTION LAW AS UNDEMOCRATIC. BUNKER

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